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INDIA.

BOMBAY—Improved Health Conditions.

Consul Dennison reports, August 30:

In contrast with the unhealthy conditions which prevailed during the month of July, Bombay is now enjoying a period of almost record healthiness for this season of the year.

In the week ended August 30 there were 566 deaths in the city compared with 610 in the previous week, 593 in the corresponding week of last year, and a quinquennial average of 653. Plague has dropped to 25 deaths a week, which is approximately the mean for this season. Smallpox, for the first time for nearly a year, does not figure in the mortality returns at all. The average weekly number of deaths from cholera at this time of the year is 27, and last week there were only two.

The less noteworthy diseases have also diminished, so that the comparatively small total mortality represents an improvement of health in every direction.

The death rate of 30.09 is probably an exaggeration, for there is no doubt that the population of the city has largely increased since the last census was taken. Expert observers believe that the inhabitants of Bombay now number considerably over a million. The health of the population is, therefore, even considerably better than the figures show.

Changes of weather and other influences cause large fluctuations, but a steady tendency to improvement is manifesting itself, and there are good reasons to attribute it to a higher sanitary understanding on the part of the people.

CALCUTTA—Cholera and Plague.

Acting Assistant Surgeon Allan reports, September 1:

During the week ended August 13, there were 13 deaths from cholera and 4 from plague in Calcutta; in all Bengal, 102 cases of plague, with 70 deaths; in all India, 1,543 cases of plague, with 1,037 deaths.

ITALY.

Status of Cholera.

Surgeon Geddings reports, September 12 and 19:

During the week ended September 10, 1910, cholera was reported in Italy as follows:

PROVINCE OF BARI.

	Cases.	Deaths.
Andria.....	4
Barletta.....	34	16
Canosa.....	3
Molfetta.....	9	6
Trani.....	2	4
	52	26

PROVINCE OF FOGGIA.

Cerignola.....	6	5
Margherita di Savoia.....	5	9
Ortanova.....	3	2
Trinitapoli.....	22	14
San Ferdinando.....	4	3
	40	33

Trani has been almost entirely cleared up, and but for an unexpected recrudescence Barletta would have made an almost equally favorable showing. Trinitapoli, in the Province of Foggia, is now the greatest danger point, but the measures being taken there are very active, and it is believed will soon show results.

Situation in Naples.—Cases and deaths from gastro-enteritis continue. For the period from August 24 to September 10, 1910, there have been 34 deaths from this cause alone, and while the death rate has been very high, the exact number of cases is not known. The cases are rather widely scattered over the city, and so far as reported there have been no secondary cases in any family nor dwelling in which primary cases have occurred.

The situation with regard to emigration continues unchanged. There have been no suspicious cases among those embarking or awaiting embarkation. Examinations have been made of the dejecta of 150 individuals coming from actually infected districts and held under observation upon the quarantine ship, and not a single bacillus carrier has been found. These emigrants were destined not only for the United States, but also for points in South America.

The Naples water supply.—Daily bacteriological examinations are made of the Serino water supplied to the city. A condition of remarkable purity is reported as a result of these examinations. On an average each cubic centimeter of water contains about 8 colonies, of which only 2 or 3 are liquefiers of gelatine. There is an entire absence of intestinal organisms.

WEEK ENDED SEPTEMBER 17, 1910.

	Cases.	Deaths.
Province of Bari:		
Andria.....	2	2
Barletta.....	13	5
Molfetta.....	6	1
	21	8
Province of Foggia:		
Cerignola.....	4	3
San Ferdinando.....	2	1
Trinitapoli.....	9	5
	15	9

The improvement in the condition is evident from the figures. Centers of infection are gradually being cleaned up and eliminated and the number of cases is diminishing.

In Trani the epidemic is reported to be on the decline. The cities of Ruvo and Bitonto have been declared free from cholera. Great difficulty is experienced in the eradication of the infection from Barletta, where several cases are daily reported. Disinfection is carefully carried on in the streets and especially in two wards of the city, one of which is inhabited by fishermen, the other by peasants.

The condition in Naples.—This continues unsatisfactory, but I think shows an improvement over that reported last week. In a general way it may be said that the cases of "gastro-enteritis" are fewer in number, and that the mortality from them is not so pronounced. The hopeful feature of the absence of secondary cases in houses and families where primary ones have occurred continues.

The detention upon the quarantine ship of persons from the infected districts continues. No suspicious cases have occurred, and bacteriological examinations have failed to reveal the occurrence of a single "bacillus carrier."

On October 5 Doctor Geddings further reported:

From September 17 to October 2, in Bari and Foggia, 71 cases of cholera with 33 deaths. In Naples, from September 25 to October 2, 132 cases with 68 deaths; October 4, 8 cases, 5 deaths. In other provinces, 36 cases.

Cholera in Sardinia.

The following information was received from the Department of State, October 3:

Cholera in Sardinia. Four cases, 1 death.

Precautions Observed on Italian Steamships.

Doctor Geddings reports, September 17:

As a rule vessels from Genoa arrive at Naples in the early morning, take on their passengers and cargo, and sail for the United States in the afternoon or evening of the same day. The crew are fully occupied on board, and there is a minimum of communication with the shore. Some vessels make a longer stay in the port. Owing to the lack of pier room these vessels lie in the open harbor and shore leave is not usually granted. All vessels carrying passengers are provided with one or more medical officers. As the shortest time of passage from this port to New York is about ten and one-half days, a period far in excess of the period of incubation of cholera, any infection among passengers or crew in all probability would be recognized and all precautions taken before reaching New York. In addition to medical officers all vessels carrying Italian passengers carry a medical officer of the Italian army or navy. These officers are on board for the purpose of protecting the interests, sanitary and otherwise, of the passengers, and are vigilant in the discharge of their duties.

NAPLES—Examination of Emigrants.

Doctor Geddings further reports:

Vessels inspected at Naples and Palermo week ended September 10.

NAPLES.

Date.	Name of ship.	Destination.	Steerage passengers inspected and passed.	Pieces of baggage inspected and passed.	Pieces of baggage disinfected.
Sept. 6	Venezia.....	New York.....	313	50	320
6	Luisiana.....	do.....	231	20	260
8	Ancona.....	Philadelphia.....	609	110	830
9	Oceania.....	New York.....	633	140	850
9	Königin Luise.....	do.....	181	20	210
	Total.....		1,967	340	2,470

PALERMO.

Sept. 7	Luisiana.....	New York.....	133	275	100
10	Königin Luise.....	do.....	215	500	150
	Total.....		348	775	250